

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

-- The present invention concerns peptide compounds, which were found to bind to the  $\alpha_M$  integrin I-domain and inhibit its complex formation with proMMP-9, thereby preventing neutrophil migration. The compounds comprise the hexapeptide motif HFDDDE (SEQ ID NO: 2). The compounds can be used in prophylaxis and treatment of inflammatory conditions. --